VZCZCXRO8796 PP RUEHGI RUEHMA RUEHPA RUEHROV DE RUEHUJA #0577 0931214 ZNR UUUUU ZZH P 031214Z APR 09 FM AMEMBASSY ABUJA TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5673 INFO RUCNFUR/DARFUR COLLECTIVE RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD 0159 RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA 1777 RUEHYD/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 0734 RUEHOS/AMCONSUL LAGOS 1078 RHMFISS/HQ USAFRICOM STUTTGART GE RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHDC RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC RUEKDIA/DIA WASHDC RHMFISS/HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE RUZEJAA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK

UNCLAS ABUJA 000577

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

DEPT FOR AF/W, INR/AA BAGHDAD FOR DMCCULLOUGH

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KPKO PREL PGOV SU NI

SUBJECT: NIGERIA: DEMARCHE DELIVERED ON STATUS OF EQUIPMENT

FOR UNAMID

REF: SECSTATE 29993

- 11. (SBU) On March 30, Ambassador delivered reftel demarche to Minister of State for Defense Ademola Seriki. The Minister affirmed that the Nigerian Contingent Owned Equipment (COE) is in Lagos, awaiting shipment, and would be forwarded to Darfur as soon as possible. In a related conversation, Nigerian Army Staff's Director of Peacekeeping Operations Brigadier General Sani told Mission's OSC Chief that all COE is ready and is awaiting shipment to Sudan via United Nations vessel. He did not offer an estimated shipping date, but blamed Lagos Harbor's well-known congestion for delays (the current backlog in Lagos Harbor is reportedly 105 days or more).
- 12. (SBU) Meanwhile OSC and Political will check with local UN contacts to see if they can provide an estimated timeline for a UN vessel to not only pick up COE but also deliver it to Sudan.
- $\P 3$ . (U) This cable was coordinated with Consulate Lagos. SANDERS